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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/828,299	04/21/2004	Toshimitsu Kamano	500.39520CX2	4385
20457	7590	01/31/2005	EXAMINER	
ANTONELLI, TERRY, STOUT & KRAUS, LLP 1300 NORTH SEVENTEENTH STREET SUITE 1800 ARLINGTON, VA 22209-9889			DINH, NGOC V	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2187	

DATE MAILED: 01/31/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/828,299

Applicant(s)

KAMANO ET AL.

Examiner

NGOC V DINH

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 03 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 01 September 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-42 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-42 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 04/21/04.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION**DETAILED ACTION****Information Disclosure Statement.**

1. As required by M.P.E.P. 2001.06(b) and C.F.R. 1.98(d) since the instant application has been identified as a continuation application of: an earlier filed application No. 09/764286, which was examined by the Examiner, now patent No. 6606695, and is relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. 120, the Examiner has reviewed the prior art cited in the earlier related application as required by M.P.E.P. 904 and as stated in M.P.E.P. 600 (I) (2) no separate citation of the same prior art need be made in the instant application. As required by M.P.E.P. 609 C(2), a copy of the PTOL-1449 is attached to the instant office action.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-7, 22, 23-28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Burton et al PN 6,633,962, and in view of Blumenau et al US 2001/0020254.

Per claims 1 and 22, Burton teaches a storage system comprising: a storage control unit for receiving a data write request from a plurality of host computers which configure a plurality of host groups; at least one storage unit coupled to said storage control unit, said storage unit has a plurality of storage regions for storing data; wherein said storage control unit has security information indicating relationships between each of said host groups and each of said storage regions accessible for each of said host groups [col. 2, lines 5-55]; wherein said security information is used by said storage control unit to reject accesses from other host groups other than each of said host groups are permitted to access to each of said storage regions [fig. 1-2; abstract]; and wherein said storage control unit receives a Port Login (PLOGI) frame [CDB, col. 6, lines 1-30] from a newly host

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computer which is newly coupled to said storage control unit [e.g., determining whether any host that is not in the determined cluster group, col. 15, lines 1-17; col. 18, claim 21] and acquires a World Wide Name (WWN) and a source identifier (S_ID) contained in said PLOGI frame from said PLOGI frame so that an administrator can select a storage region of said plurality of storage regions to be accessed from a host group belonging to said newly host computer by using said acquired WWN [col. 3, lines 1-40; col. 5, lines 1-25, lines 38-65; col. 6, lines 1-65; col. 7, lines 1-35; col. 11, lines 15-60; col. 12, lines 40-65];

Burton does not teach without inputting a WWN of said newly host computer by said administrator.

Blumenau teaches without inputting a WWN of said newly host computer by said administrator [col. 4, lines 1-15; col. 10, [0095], [0099]].

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to further include the teaching of Blumenau as mentioned above into Burton system. Doing so would avoid error from inputting the lengthy WWN of each host into the computer system [col. 10, [0095]].

Burton further teaches:

Per claims 3 and 24, new host computer is newly started up [col. 9, lines 40-45; col. 15, lines 3-17].

Per claims 7 and 28, storage region is a logical unit [fig. 2].

Per claims 2, 23 said storage control unit sends Accept (ACC) frame or Link Service Reject (LS_RJT) frame based on said received PLOGI frame [col. 5, lines 28-65; col. 6, lines 1-60].

Per claims 4 and 25, said storage control unit generates data to display said acquired WWN of said newly host computer [fig. 2; col. 5, lines 10-25; col. 15, lines 1-27].

Per claims 5 and 26, said storage control unit provides data to display a table which is relationships between said host group belonging to said newly host computer and said storage region to be accessed from said host group belonging to said newly host computer [fig. 1-2; col. 9, lines 40-45; col. 15, lines 3-27; col. 16, lines 27-40].

Per claims 6 and 27, inherently, Burton teaches wherein said administrator can select an

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access enable right for said newly host computer to access said storage region of said plurality of storage regions [col. 9, lines 40-45; col. 15, lines 3-17; col. 6, line 64 to col. 7, line 5]. This is because when a newly host computer is added to the system, the network administrator must determine and assigned which storage region the newly added host can access and can not access.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

Claims 8-21, 29-42 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Burton et al.

Per claim 8, Burton teaches a storage system comprising: a storage control unit for receiving a data write request from a plurality of host computers which configure a plurality of host groups; at least one storage unit coupled to said storage control unit, said storage unit has a plurality of storage regions for storing data; wherein said storage control unit has security information indicating relationships between each of said host groups and each of said storage regions accessible for each of said host groups; wherein said security information is used by said storage control unit to reject accesses from other host groups other than each of said host groups are permitted to access to each of said storage regions; and wherein said storage control unit receives a Port Login (PLOGI) frame from a newly host computer which is newly coupled to said storage control unit, and acquires a source identifier (S_ID) contained in said PLOGI frame from said PLOGI frame so that an administrator can select a storage region of said plurality of storage regions to be accessed from a host group belonging to said newly host computer [abstract; col. 3, lines 1-40; col. 5, lines 1-25, lines 38-65; col. 6, lines 1-65; col. 7, lines 1-35; col. 9, lines 40-50; col. 11, lines 15-60; col. 12, lines 40-65; col. 13, lines 5-38; col. 15, lines 3-17].

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Burton further teaches:

Per claims 9, 17, 30 and 38, said storage control unit sends Accept (ACC) frame or Link Service Reject (LS_RJT) frame based on said received PLOGI frame [col. 5, lines 55-65; col. 6, lines 1-60; col. 7, lines 7-35].

Per claims 10, 18, 31 and 39, said newly host computer is newly started up [col. 9, lines 40-45; col. 15, lines 3-17].

Per claims 11, 19, 32 and 40, said storage control unit acquires a World Wide Name (WWN) contained in said PLOGI frame from said PLOGI frame and generates data to display said acquired WWN of said newly host computer [col. 5, lines 9-65; col. 9, lines 40-45].

Per claims 12 and 33, wherein said storage control unit provides data to display a table which is relationships between said host group belonging to said newly host computer and said storage region to be accessed from said host group belonging to said newly host computer [fig. 1-2; col. 9, lines 4-45].

Per claims 13 and 34, Burton inherently teaches said administrator can select an access enable right for said newly host computer to access said storage region of said plurality of storage regions [col. 9, lines 40-45; col. 15, lines 3-17; col. 6, line 64 to col. 7, line 5].

This is because when a newly host computer is added to the system, the network administrator must determine and assigned which storage region the newly added host can access and can not access.

Per claims 14 and 35, said storage region is a logical unit [fig. 2].

Per claims 15, 21, 36 and 42, said storage control unit acquires a World Wide Name (WWN) contained in said PLOGI frame from said PLOGI frame [col. 5, lines 38-65; col. 6, lines 1-15].

Per claim 16, Burton teaches the claimed limitations as mentioned in claim 8, and further teaches “and provides data to display relationships between a newly host group belonging to said newly host computer and a logical unit of said plurality of logical units to be accessed from said newly host group [fig. 1-2; col. 9, lines 40-45; col. 15, lines 3-27; col. 16, lines 27-40].

Per claims 20 and 41, storage control unit makes state that an administrator can select an

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access enable right for said newly host group to access said logical unit of said plurality of logical units [col. 10, lines 56-65].

Per claims 29 and 37, Burton teaches the claimed limitations as mentioned in claims 8 and 16. Burton teaches administrator can select a storage regions to not be accessed from said new host computer [col. 9, lines 40-45; col. 10, lines 56-60; col. 15, lines 3-27].

Conclusion

4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

a. Ito et al, PN 6,684,209 discloses security method for storage subsystem.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ngoc Dinh whose telephone number is (571) 272-4191.

The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 8:30 AM-5:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, DONALD A. SPARKS can be reached on (571) 272-4201. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 746-7239 for regular communications and (703) 746-7238 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (571) 272-2100.

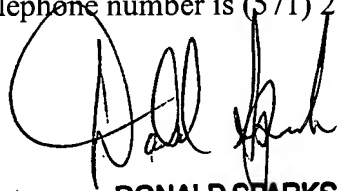


NGOC DINH

Patent Examiner

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January 14, 2005



DONALD SPARKS
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER